



MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

STATE OF MAINE

The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on May 19, 2010 at the Cross State Office Building, ATM Room 103, Augusta, Maine. The following members were present: Chair, Ann Weisleder; Vice Chair, James Banks, Jr.; Marilyn Temple Tardy; Steven Pound; Lynda Doyle; Nancy Perkins; James Carignan; Andrea Levinsky; and Angela Bechard. Excused: Jeffrey Vermette and Honor Wilkinson.

Also present were: Acting Commissioner Angela Faherty; Harry Osgood, Higher Education Specialist; Rachelle Tome, Title I Consultant; Barbara Moody, Professional Development Consultant; David Connerty-Marin, Director of Communications; and Georgette Valliere, Secretary Specialist.

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Ann Weisleder called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOVED by James Carignan, seconded by Nancy Perkins, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the April 14, 2010 minutes as written.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Vice Chair, James Banks, Sr.

➤ That the State Board Retreat will be held on August 9 – 10, 2010. He is researching a location for the retreat and Lynda Doyle has obtained prices from the Haraseekeeet Inn, in Freeport. A Meeting Wizard will be sent out to all Board members to check on availability and see how many members will need overnight accommodations for Sunday and Monday. A regular business meeting will be held at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, August 10, 2010. Jim and Steve will coordinate with Angela Faherty regarding presentations by Department personnel.

Chair, Ann Weisleder:

- That she participated in a NASBE conference call with State Board Chairs.
- NASBE has convened an on-line task force on rural and frontier education. She and Nancy Perkins have volunteered to participate on that task force. Unfortunately, they decided to have their first conference call while she and Nancy were attending the public hearing for Chapter 13, so they were unable to participate. The (MLTI) Maine Learning Technology Initiative has had quite an impact for our State in reaching all learners and making education more accessible to them. She has promised to have a presentation about our unorganized townships and territories and how they are served.
- That the Professional Standards Board, by statute, needs to hold five meetings. To date the group has held four of the five meetings. The fifth meeting is scheduled for June 1, 2010. The group has been working on standards and recommendations to bring before the State Board regarding things they would like to see the Board consider in a way of certification of educators. The only recommendations they have is about ways to use National Board Certification as an alternate pathway to certification; more for people coming into the state, rather than people already in-state.
- That she received a letter on April 21, 2010 and is not sure if all Board members received the same letter. It was from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), and they are requesting that the Board consider advocating for virtual dissections and virtual use of live or dead animals in programs throughout our state. Ann would like to refer the letter and its contents to the Certification and Higher Education Committee.
- That the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) conducts an Annual New Member Institute Session. Each year NASBE will cover the cost for two members to attend. Dottie Martin is the only new Board member appointed since the New Member Institute was held in 2009. Dottie is not available to attend this year as she has another commitment. Marilyn Tardy asked if it were possible for three members to attend this year and if NASBE might be flexible whereas Maine sent only one member in 2009. Ann will contact NASBE.
- That the email list for Board members needs to be updated and she requested that all members check the contact list they are using to be sure they have a correct address for each member.
- That Jim Carignan feels it is important for the State Board of Education to be included in any Essential Programs and Services (EPS) work that will be done for public law, along with the Commissioner and MEPRI. Jim Rier has offered to

do a presentation on EPS, and the Commissioner's recommended funding levels. Resolve 197 passed and was signed on April 2, 2010.

➤ That she has a copy of the monthly budget for the Board and will answer any questions. Marilyn requested that the budget sheet be more explicit in description of each category.

CONSENT AGENDA:

RECEIPT OF THE REVIEW TEAM REPORT FOR COLLEGE OF THE ATLANTIC

MOVED by James Banks, Sr., seconded by James Carignan, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the consent agenda.

SPECIAL ORDERS:

CONSIDERATION OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO SIGN-OFF FOR THE RACE TO THE TOP APPLICATION (NO EXHIBIT)

MOVED by Nancy Perkins, seconded by James Banks, Sr., and unanimously voted by those present to approve and include a letter of support from the State Board of Education with the Race to the Top application.

MOVED by James Banks, Sr. seconded by Marilyn Tardy, and unanimously voted by those present to have the State Board of Education Chair write the letter of support to be included with the Race to the Top application.

NEW BUSINESS:

CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FROM THE CERTIFICATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE FOR AN ADDITION TO THE BOARD POLICY AND PROCEDURE DOCUMENTS MANUAL TO PROVIDE A PROCESS FOR APPOINTING BOARD OBSERVERS

BACKGROUND: The Certification and Higher Education Committee found that while the State Board holds itself to the obligation to provide a Board Observer when reviews of teacher preparation programs or degree-granting authority reviews take place, this expectation is not written in any Board policy or procedure, or in any of the applicable rules. Since these reviews are a significant part of the Board's work, there should be clear, written expectations of how this should happen and whom the responsible parties are. This clarity is also intended to assure that an Observer will be present at all reviews.

To follow-up on the suggestion for the development of a Board policy on a protocol for requiring and appointing Board observers for teacher preparation program and degree-granting authority reviews, the following language was proposed to clarify the protocol:

"A State Board Observer must be included on every teacher preparation program review and every degree-granting authority review. The Chair of the Board will insure that all Board members are trained to fulfill this responsibility of Board membership, including the opportunity to participate as a mentored observer on a review before assuming the role of designated observer. When a review is scheduled, the Chair of the Board will appoint the Observer in consultation with the DOE Higher Education Specialist."

MOVED by Ann Weisleder, seconded by Nancy Perkins, and unanimously voted by those present to prepare an exhibit for the May Board meeting proposing that this language be included in the State Board's Policy and Procedures Manual. As work proceeds on revision of rules/statutes, the observer expectation should be one of the amendments.

RECOMMENDATION: The Certification and Higher Education Committee recommends that the proposed definition of a procedure for requiring and appointing State Board Observers for teacher preparation program reviews and degree-granting reviews be inserted in the Board's Policy and Procedures manual; and, that as rules and statutes are revised, these requirements be included in those documents as appropriate.

MOVED by Steven Pound, seconded by James Banks, Sr., and unanimously voted by those present that the State Board of Education supports the Maine Coalition for Excellence in Education (MCEE) "Prepare Maine" Core Priorities because as a global proposal it is very similar, in many areas, to the content of the State Board of Education's Strategic Plan and the Board's ongoing discussions. However, be it resolved that the Board reserves the right to weigh in on the details of the content of this proposal, as they are developed and/or brought to the Board for action in the future. The State Board of Education will "collaborate", not sign on.

CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FROM THE MAINE COALITION FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION (MCEE) FOR PARTNER SIGN-ON

BACKGROUND: Following a presentation at the February 2010 State Board Workshop by the Maine Coalition for Excellence in Education representatives Yellow Light Breen, Dolly Sullivan and Maine Teacher of the Year Gloria Noyes, the Board agreed to review and discuss particulars of the initiative as they became available before acting on any request for our support.

We now have a request to sign-on and have one draft part of the detail to review. although the Coalition is having press conferences on May 13 to roll out their Call to Action, we have agreed to follow our original plan and give to the proposal the due diligence it deserves.

For your consideration we have provided the Sign On document and the draft details that relate to the parent/community piece of the plan.

MOVED by Steven Pound, seconded by James Banks, Sr., and voted three in favor, with five members opposed that the State Board of Education support the Maine Coalition for Excellence in Education (MCEE) "Prepare Maine" Core Priorities because as a global proposal it is very similar, in many areas, to the content of the State Board of Education's Strategic Plan and the Board's ongoing discussions. However, be it resolved that the Board reserves the right to weigh in on the details of the content of this proposal, as they are developed and/or brought to the Board for action in the future. The State Board of Education will "collaborate", not sign on.

NOMINATION COMMITTEE:

SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR NOMINATION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR THE 2010 – 2011 YEAR

Committee: Marilyn Tardy, Chair, Nancy Perkins and Lynda Doyle.

Marilyn Tardy presented the slate of names for chair and vice chair. James Banks, Sr. was nominated to serve as chair and Steven Pound was nominated to serve as vice chair for a term of one year beginning July 1, 2010. Election of officers will take place at the June 9, 2010 Board meeting. Ann Weisleder appointed Georgette Valliere as ballot clerk.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

James Carignan:

- No Report

Steven Pound:

- No Report

Dorothy Martin

- No Report

Jeffrey Vermette:

- No Report - Absent

Andrea Levinsky:

- That she participated in a survey about NASBE services.

Angela Bechard:

- No Report

Nancy Perkins:

- That she listened to a webinar regarding network arrangements between the University of Massachusetts and the University of Springfield regarding the licensing of teachers. They have an innovative program that functions quite well. The Universities approached the Massachusetts State Board with a program that has merit.

Lynda Doyle:

- No Report

Marilyn Temple Tardy:

- That she participated in and the group has completed 5 visits for the Teacher of the Year (Oakland, Poland, Yarmouth, Leavitt and North Turner). She said it's amazing!

Honor Wilkinson:

- No Report – (Absent)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- No Announcements

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- No Public Comment

ADJOURNMENT:

The State Board of Education meeting adjourned at 3:01 PM.